

Chen
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REMARKS

The undersigned wishes to acknowledge the courteous treatment received during an interview held with the Examiners Muralidhar and Easthom on June 28, 2006.

Claims 1-3 were rejected as being anticipated by Hahn 5,847,541.

Claims 4-11 were rejected as being unpatentable over Hahn in view of Popescu-Stanesti 6,977,482.

Claims 12 and 13 were rejected as being unpatentable over Hahn in view of Liao 6,495,988.

Hahn discloses a modular power supply for powering an electronic device and containing a battery for simultaneously powering the electrical device and charging the battery within the modular device. The present invention differs from Hahn by having a sensor switch to determine if the current produced by the power adapter within the unit is greater than or equal to a predetermined value (see page 36, second paragraph) and to switch between connecting the electronic device directly to the power adapter or the battery within the unit depending on the determination made by the sensor switch. In addition, the sensor switch, when the voltage/current is less than the predetermined value, power will be delivered to the electronic device only if the unit battery is present (see Fig. 8 and accompanying descriptive material in the specification).

Popescu has a system for managing multiple battery systems and was cited for a plurality of adapters. It should be pointed out that in this reference only a single power source is connected to the plurality of batteries for charging, whereas in the present

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invention there is claimed multiple adapters. This reference was also cited for the selector circuit 214 which opens or closes switch 230 depending upon whether source 204 is producing an acceptable voltage level, similar to the present invention. In the event the voltage is insufficient, one or more of the batteries present would be connected to deliver the power to the electronic device. One of the ways the present invention differs from this reference is that in the event that the unit battery is not detected and the voltage level of the source is too low, then no power is delivered to the electronic device (see Fig. 8 and accompanying descriptive material in the specification).

Liao was cited for retractable cords.

In view of the excellent art cited by the Examiner, claim 1 has been extensively amended to include the distinguishing features described above and to incorporate the two retractors into a compact unit within a single housing, providing for a unitary, compact system which does not appear to be suggested in the above references. The claim has also been amended to recite details of the retraction mechanisms and the channels for the cords as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the specification.

Examiner Easthom made a number of suggestions with regard to the retracting mechanisms and these have all been adopted.

Examiner Muralidhar made some suggestions as to how to recite details of the sensor switch and cover the flow sheet of Fig. 8 and these have been adopted.

Depending claim 2 adds details of the first power cord.

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Claims 3-13 have been canceled, including claim 4 as Examiner Muralidhar noted that the plurality of adapters called for in this claim are not shown in the drawings.

A conscientious effort has been made to place this application in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned or Mr. Kroll if further changes are required to obtain allowance of the application.

A favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

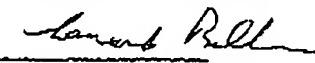


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CERTIFICATE OF FAXING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, telephone number 571-273-8300 on July 7, 2006.


Leonard Belkin